

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

July 6, 1960

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ROBERT W. STODDARD
CHARLES B. STONE, III
ERNEST G. SWIGERT

[REDACTED]
Seattle 66, Washington

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b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of June 28th with the two dollars enclosed, and the column from your weekly Progress. A Blue Book has been sent to you, and we hope you decide to join with us in our efforts.

We do have a local chapter in Seattle, and I would suggest that you write to our Coordinator, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Mercer Island, Washington. I am sending a copy of this letter to him, so he will know of your interest.

We look forward to hearing from you, and send you our best wishes.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Home Office

HFM:gs

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Who's who on the far Right Ultras linked to big money

People's World Northwest Bureau

Few top directors and executives of Washington State banks and corporations have lent their names to current campaigns of the extreme right wing organizations. Yet, the most cursory examination reveals close connections that tie these fanatical groups with the state's bankers and landlords; with merchants and shippers; with the agricultural barons, and with the big manufacturers like Boeing and Weyerhaeuser.

Fine but definite threads link these businesses and the military establishments in Washington with several Ultra Right outfits active in the past two years, among them the John Birch Society; ~~Christian Anti-Communism Crusade; Constitution Party; Group of People, Inc.; For Economic Freedom, Inc.; Freedom Fighters; Committee for Voluntary Unionism, and their related publications.~~

Activities of these far Right groups have reached into trade unions, churches, schools and colleges, business establishments and the U.S. armed services. Their activities have stretched across state lines, linking Washington Rightists with their counterparts in California, Oregon and Idaho. Notable in this regard are the Freedom Center in Oregon and the Shoshone County Anti-Communist Assn. in Idaho. The latter group kicked off the current extremist assault in the Northwest with its lushly financed and successful attack on the Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers in 1960, resulting in loss of bargaining rights by the old and militant union at Bunker Hill Co. properties in Idaho.

SORTIE IN SEATTLE

One of the latest ventures of the Ultra Right forces in Washington was a redbaiting foray into the Seattle municipal election campaign early this year. An outfit calling itself the 1962 City Good Government Committee urged defeat of three city council candidates, among them Wing Luke, outstanding attorney identified with civil rights struggles in Washington.

Principal argument against Luke's election raised by the Rightist group was ~~that his~~ unique qualifications for the office had been publicized by The People's World. Luke bested eight rivals in the primary, all of whom later united publicly behind the candidacy of J. G. Aiken in the final contest. Despite strong business support for Aiken and the additional factor of opposition by the Good Government group, Luke went on to win a smashing victory in the general election March 13.

Of the eight individuals or couples who signed the widely distributed letter of the committee calling for Luke's defeat, half had a few weeks before sponsored Dr. Fred Schwarz' Puget Sound School of Anti-Communism. These were Mr. and Mrs. John M. Fluke, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene F. McElmeel, Mr. and Mrs. Anchor Jensen and Mrs. Harold A. Roberts.

THE BOEING LINK

Fluke, president of the John Fluke Mfg. Co., was recently feted by the Boeing Co. upon production of the 15,000th Fluke voltmeter. Boeing has been a principal customer of the Fluke firm since buying the first Fluke voltmeter ever produced, seven years ago.

Dr. McElmeel, with offices in the Medical & Dental buldg., and Jensen, manager of the Jensen Motor Boat Co., were both anti-Luke while pro-Schwarz.

Among the remaining four couples or individuals signing the Rightist broadside during the city election campaign were Gladys G. Giffin, secretary-treasurer of the Timber Operators Assn., and Lawrence Timbers, advertising businessman and publisher of an occasionally appearing sheet called ~~Thunder~~.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city & state)

PEOPLES WORLD
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which attacks both The People's World and Hearst's Seattle Post-Intelligencer from the right, while defending the John Birch Society. Both the Washington Department and national headquarters of the American Legion disassociated themselves from Timbers four years ago when, in the name of the Washington Department's anti-subversive committee, he attacked the United Nations Intl. Children's Emergency Fund.

FAR OUT RIGHT

Both Gladys Giffin and Timbers served last year on the board of trustees of the Washington State Committee for Economic Freedom, Inc., a group working for repeal of the federal income tax in conjunction with the Natl. Committee for Economic Freedom. The outfit would do away with practically all federal government functions except maintenance of a military establishment, abolishing such departments as Agriculture and Interior. Even the Post Office would be turned over to private business if the committee's full program would be carried out.

A joint resolution calling for repeal of the federal income tax was introduced in the Washington state House of Representatives last year by State Rep. Cecil C. Clark, Wapato fruit grower and shipper, restaurateur and partner in a 60-unit Yakima apartment house. Clark, active legislative champion of Eastern Washington "right to work" sponsors, served with Timbers and Gladys Giffin as a trustee of the For Economic Freedom Group.

Other members of the 1961 FEF board were P. C. (Cap) Brezley of Mercer Island, then Seattle area organizer of the John Birch Society, and Virginia Shackleford, Birch Society spokesman from Tacoma.

TIES TO BANKS

James W. and Charles F. Clise, both now deceased, served as FEF trustee and member of the FEF advisory council, respectively, last year. The Clise brothers and their heirs in the fabulous family financial and business empire in and around Seattle, provide a main link between top banking and industrial interests and the Ultra Right.

At the time of his death last July Charles F. Clise was a director of the billion dollar Seattle First Natl. Bank, as well as heading up numerous other mortgage banking, securities, insurance and real estate firms. His son Charles F. Jr., who succeeded his father at family business headquarters in the Securities bldg., was listed last year as a buyer for the Boeing Co.

Another top Seattle banker serving with the Clises as advisory council member of For Economic Freedom, Inc., was Joshua Green, legendary nonagenarian and board chairman of the People's Natl. Bank, one of the first institutions to back compulsory open shop legislation in Washington.

WEB OF FINANCE

Green's present financial connections include directorships in such diversified enterprises as railroad, securities, electrical products, insurance, real estate, hospital, brewing, mining and power and light. He is a director also, of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

C. E. Jenks, a director of Green's People's Natl. Bank and prominent "right to work" proponent, served with Charles F. Clise and seven others last year as trustee of Group of People, Inc., the outfit organized in Seattle specifically to premiere the showing of the film strip, "Communism on the Map," at Clise's Orpheum Theater.

Gregg McDonald, another trustee of GOP, Inc., is president of D. K. McDonald & Co., leading Seattle insurance firm with offices in the Norton bldg. and a director of the Natl. Bank of Commerce. MacDonald

was among the sponsors of the Schwartz anti-communism school in February.

Elizabeth P. Hansen, who has served as chief spokesman for Group of People, Inc., is active in the Daughters of the American Revolution and attended the DAR national convention recently where Major Archibald D. Roberts aired the sensational charges that led to his dismissal from the U.S. Army. Roberts, former aide to Gen. Edwin Walker, was involved in the latter's plan to carry through the Birch Society operation among U.S. troops in Germany.

A rent-free office at 27 Orpheum bldg. has been provided Mrs. Hansen and GOP, Inc., by the Clise interests for the past year and a half. Room 208 next door is occupied by "Seattle Freedom Library," which displays such publications as Gerald L. K. Smith's The Cross & The Flag.

Among other trustees of GOP, Inc., is Robert O'Neill, who introduced "Communism on the Map" at its first public showing at the Orpheum. O'Neill is associated with the law firm of Cartano, Botzer and Chapman, whose leading partner, John D. Cartano, is current president of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

ENTER THE NAVY

O'Neill is among several attorneys with this firm who are members of the naval reserve and whose active military tours of duty consist of service as officers engaged in aircraft procurement.

The commander of the big Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle was transferred last year following a public outcry against widespread circulation and showing by uniformed personnel of the films, "Communism on the Map," and "Operation Abolition." The films were then being promoted in public schools and elsewhere by the Boeing Co.

"Communism on the Map" portrayed such countries as England, Norway and Italy as communist. The film strip was produced by Dr. George Benson's "Natl. Education Program" at Harding College, Searcy, Ark.

Vice president of Dr. Benson's organization and contact man with big business is Howard W. Bennett, one of the heads of the "Employee and Plant Relations Division" of the General Electric Corp.

(Mount Clipping in space below)

Ultra-Right vs. free inquiry rises as vital '62 election issue

SEATTLE — The right of free thought, free expression and free assembly in public schools and tax supported institutions of higher education in Washington State may become a major election issue in the political contests of 1962.

Late in May, as the school year drew to a close, battle lines sharpened at the University of Washington, with educators and students organizing against further restrictions recently pronounced by UW regents.

In a related development the King county Democratic party convention, meeting May 26 with 1,000 Democrats in attendance, demanded repeal of the McCarran Internal Security Act of 1950.

These happenings seemed to augur the emergence of a statewide counterattack against strong pressures brought to bear in Washington by the ultra-Right in the past two years. Steady resistance to these pressure has been building up since February, when the ban on Communist spokesman Gus Hall at colleges throughout the state coincided with a sharp blast at the ultra-Right leveled by Washington Democratic party leaders.

BLAST AT THE RIGHT

A resolution adopted in February at the Wenatchee meeting of the state Democratic Central Committee termed such groups as the John Birch Society, Christian Anti-Communism Crusade and the Freedom Fighters as "a threat of extreme reaction to a free society." The Democratic leaders particularly warned citizens to be alert to efforts of these groups to influence the curriculum of public schools in the name of anti-communism.

Since the Wenatchee meeting and the refusal of university facilities to Hall, a virtual parade of Right wing standard bearers has trekked to the UW campus, apparently unfettered by the institution's supposed ban on conspirators against the U. S. Constitution.

A case in point is that of P. C. "Cap" Beezley, erstwhile local leader of the John Birch Society, who appeared on campus under sponsorship of the UW New Conservatives, a student group.

"Left-leaning Professors Aset to Communism," read a page one headline April 17 in the University of Washington Daily over a story on Beezley's speech.

RIGHTISTS APPEAR

The story in The Daily was carried in the edition following that which reported, "Odegaard Bans Red Speakers," referring to the announcement of UW President Charles Odegaard that a long standing limitation on campus speakers was being replaced by one specifically excluding Communist party spokesmen.

Other recent UW speakers sponsored by the New Conservatives included William Rusher, publisher of The National Review, and Russell Kirk, a Review columnist and author of "The Conservative Mind."

Among numerous other rep-

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PEOPLES WORLD

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representatives of the ultra-Right to appear on the UW campus before and since the ban on Hall was effected are Dr. Fred Schwarz and Herbert Philbrick, both in Seattle in connection with Schwartz's February "Puget Sound School of Anti-Communism," and Fulton Lewis 3rd.

More of the same is in prospect, according to The University Daily in a story reporting the election of Dale Higer to the presidency of the Student Political Union, a newly organized group set up by the Board of Control of the Associated Students of the University.

WHAT SPECTRUM?

Higer, a Democrat, outlined plans to bring in other speakers and was reported as feeling that such men as Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N. Y.), former President Eisenhower, former Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Sen. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) would, according to The Daily, "help give students a full spectrum of the political issues today."

Indications are that the rank and file of UW students and faculty members have a somewhat wider political spectrum than that attributed to Higer. The Daily, which has been full of letters and articles on the exclusion of Communist party spokesmen by the UW administration, reported that letter writers are arrayed 16 to 1 against the ban.

Although making no bones about his steadfast opposition to communism, retiring Daily Editor Steve Raymond has just as stubbornly insisted that the school paper reflects student opinion in calling for speedy removal of the straitjacket on free speech.

OPPOSITION VOICED

In an editorial May 10 titled "Ban the Ban," Raymond lauded action of the ASUW Board of Control the previous day in endorsing the position adopted unanimously March 7 by the Faculty Senate of the University of Oregon, which said in part:

"1. Any faculty or recognized student group may invite to the campus any speaker the group would like to hear.

"2. The appearance of an invited speaker on the campus does not involve an endorsement of his views by the University."

Raymond had earlier quoted at length from the UO faculty statement, noting that Oregon's President Arthur Flemming stated that he concurred wholeheartedly in the policy.

Congratulating the ASUW Board of Control for rejecting Odegaard's position in favor of that of Flemming, Raymond asserted the BOC stand "undoubtedly represents the vast majority of student opinion. The resolution passed yesterday will contribute to a growing chorus of dissent within the student body and faculty."

MORE DISSENT

Raymond's prediction proved astute. A chorus of dissent did indeed well up at the UW. "Dimenisons," editions of The Daily on two occasions in May devoted column after column to arguments for free discussion, written by students and faculty members. The edition of May 17 expanded into the area of debate over teaching about communism in public schools, in which proposals of the so-called "Spokane Group" were dissected.

Answering editorially one of the few letter writers who supported Odegaard's ban, The Daily summarized its own position (May 17):

"We do not regard the speak-

er ban as a gesture of loyalty to the American way of life. We regard it as an insult to that way of life. We are not afraid to hear the other side because we have confidence in our system and in ourselves."

Only through free inquiry can the truth or falsity of a position be ascertained, wrote one UW pre-law student, arguing that truth is of primary importance to understand the problems of today's world.

FOR FREE INQUIRY

"Communism is part of this truth," he continued. "We have, as university students, a responsibility to understand this philosophy that is such a potent force throughout the world. We must understand why communism appeals to so many people. We cannot understand this appeal if all we know about communism is what we read in the papers. To gain an unclouded picture of communism, we must use communist sources as well as anti-communist sources. To make such research possible, there must be freedom of speech."

As the school year drew to a close, petitions urging the UW administration to adopt the Oregon position on campus speakers were being circulated by the Democratic and Independent caucuses of the Student Political Union.

Students questioned on campus by The People's World, including staff members of The University Daily, said they believed Odegaard reached his decision on the speaker ban reluctantly, under heavy pressure from legislators who control the University's purse strings.

They agreed this pressure originated largely with missile manufacturers and the military, who wield much stronger influence in Washington than in Oregon.

HOPE FELT

Students aligned with the Democratic party, particularly, saw promise in the evident resurgence of civil liberties activity in their party. One called attention to the fact that already in February the Democratic State Central Committee had rebuffed the efforts of Spokane party leaders who had attempted to place the state organization on record as commending the Spokane legislators who initiated the call for the ban on Gus Hall at tax-supported institutions.

Meanwhile, intensity of student and faculty resistance seemed to have reached home even to ultra-Right elements. Beezley, in his UW appearance, was identified only as a prominent anti-communist. Reached by The People's World and questioned about his connections with the John Birch Society, he denied any leadership role at present.

"I've been working on some other things at present," he explained.